

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. through 8. (cancelled).

9. (currently amended): A printing apparatus, comprising:

a print head having a plurality of nozzles for ejecting ink to form dots, wherein said print head has a first nozzle row for ejecting ink having color material and a second nozzle row for ejecting ink not having color material;

wherein a number per unit area of droplets of said ink not having color material, which are discharged by said second nozzle row is less than a number per unit area of droplets of said ink having said color material, which are discharged by said first nozzle row; and

~~wherein each of all the nozzles making up said first nozzle row and each of all the nozzles making up said second nozzle row are arranged such that they are misaligned in a sub-scanning direction by a fixed distance~~wherein the first nozzle row and the second nozzle row are misaligned with each other in a sub-scanning direction by a fixed distance in such a manner that the nozzles making up the first nozzle row are misaligned, respectively, in the sub-scanning direction from the nozzles making up the second nozzle row by the fixed distance.

10. (cancelled).

11. (cancelled).

12. (currently amended): A print head having a plurality of nozzles for ejecting ink to form dots, comprising:

a first nozzle row for ejecting ink having color material; and

a second nozzle row for ejecting ink not having color material;

wherein a number of nozzles making up said second nozzle row is less than a number of nozzles making up said first nozzle row; and

~~wherein each of all the nozzles making up said first nozzle row and each of all the nozzles making up said second nozzle row are arranged such that they are misaligned in a sub-scanning direction by a fixed distance~~wherein the first nozzle row and the second nozzle row are misaligned with each other in a sub-scanning direction by a fixed distance in such a manner that the nozzles making up the first nozzle row are misaligned, respectively, in the sub-scanning direction with the nozzles making up the second nozzle row by the fixed distance.

13. through 16. (cancelled).

17. (currently amended): A printing apparatus, comprising:

a print head having a plurality of nozzles for ejecting ink to form dots, wherein said print head has a first nozzle row for ejecting ink having color material and a second nozzle row for ejecting ink not having color material nor black material;

wherein a number per unit area of droplets of said ink not having color material, which are discharged by said second nozzle row, is less than a number per unit area of droplets of said ink having color material, which are discharged by said first nozzle row; and

wherein each of all of the nozzles making up said second nozzle row is arranged such that

all the nozzles making up said second nozzle row are arranged at a constant pitch,

and

said constant pitch is larger than a pitch at which the nozzles making up said first nozzle row are arranged.

18. (currently amended): A printing apparatus according, comprising:

a print head having a plurality of nozzles for ejecting ink to form dots, wherein said print head has a first nozzle row for ejecting ink having color material and a second nozzle row for ejecting ink not having color material nor black material;

wherein a number per unit area of droplets of said ink not having color material, which are discharged by said second nozzle row, is less than a number per unit area of droplets of said ink having color material, which are discharged by said first nozzle row; and

wherein each of all the nozzles making up said second nozzle row is arranged such that

each of all the nozzles making up said second nozzle row is in a same position in

a sub-scanning direction as one of the nozzles making up said first nozzle row, and

a spacing between adjacent nozzles making up said second nozzle row is larger than a spacing between adjacent nozzles making up said first nozzle row.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Application No. 10/817,438

Q80942

THIS PAGE BLANK (USPTO)